

CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of digital video program reproduction within defined premises, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

- a) receiving a plurality of electronic audio-visual programs;
- b) storing said programs in a centralized memory;
- c) providing a ~~plurality of~~ first program reproduction device and a second reproduction device adapted to reproduce programs for viewers/users;
- d) networking said centralized memory and said first and second program reproduction devices together;
- e) selecting a program ("selected program"); and
- f) distributing the ability to control reproduction of said selected program among the first and second ~~two or more~~ reproduction devices so that, at the selection of a viewer, said reproduction of said selected program is seamless between said reproduction devices such that the first reproduction device may live-pause the reproduction of the selected program and the second reproduction device may resume reproduction of the selected program.

2. (Currently amended) The method in claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ first and second reproduction devices contemporaneously display said selected program ~~on two or more of said reproduction devices.~~

3. (Currently amended) The method in claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

designating as part of a hierarchy, a control ranking to each of said first and second reproduction devices; and

during control conflicts, allowing the reproduction device attempting to control playback having the highest control ranking, to control the reproduction of said selected program.

4. (Currently amended) The method in claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

designating ~~one~~ the first reproduction device as a master device;

designating ~~other~~ the second reproduction ~~devices~~ device as ~~a slave devices~~ device; and

during control conflicts involving the master device and the slave ~~devices~~ device, allowing the master reproduction device to control playback of said selected program.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) The method in claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

viewing a selected program via a first reproduction device;

establishing a pause point;

pausing the playback of said selected program via said first reproduction device;

and

resuming the playback of said selected program via ~~a~~ the second reproduction device from said pause point.

7. (Currently amended) The method in claim 5 1 wherein ~~two or more~~ the first and second reproduction devices are capable of reproducing a selected program independently.

8. (Currently amended) A system for digital video program reproduction within defined premises, said system comprising:

a) a program receiver adapted to receive a plurality of electronic audio-visual programs;

b) a central memory adapted to store said programs;

c) ~~a plurality of~~ first program reproduction ~~devices~~ device and a second program reproduction device each adapted to reproduce programs for viewers/users; and

d) a network adapted to network said central memory and said first and second program reproduction devices; wherein the ability to control live-pause reproduction of a selected program among ~~two or more~~ the first and second reproduction devices is distributed so that, at the selection of a viewer, said live-pause reproduction of said selected program is seamless between said first and second reproduction devices.

9. (Currently amended) The system in claim 8, wherein said central memory is ~~subsumed~~ by part of a server.

10. (Currently amended) The system in claim 8, wherein said first and second reproduction devices contemporaneously display said selected program ~~on two or more~~ ~~of said reproduction devices~~.

11. (Currently amended) The system in claim 8, wherein each of said first and second reproduction ~~device is~~ devices are designated to have, as part of a hierarchy, a control ranking, and during control conflicts, the reproduction device attempting to control playback having the highest control ranking, controls the reproduction of said selected program.

12. (Currently amended) The system in claim 8, wherein ~~one of said~~ the first reproduction ~~devices~~ device is designated as a "master device," and the ~~other~~ second reproduction ~~devices are~~ device is designated as "slave devices," and during control conflicts involving the master device and slave devices, the master reproduction device controls playback of said selected program.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The system in claim 8, wherein said system is adapted to allow viewing a selected program via ~~a~~ the first reproduction device, establish a pause point, pause the playback of said selected program via said first reproduction device, and resume the playback of said selected program via ~~a~~ the second reproduction device from said pause point.

15. (Currently amended) The system in claim ~~13~~ 8 wherein ~~two or more~~ the first and second reproduction devices are adapted to reproduce a selected program independently.

16-17. (Cancelled)